

## **A Computer System for Assessing Hazards**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A computer system for assessing workplace hazards presents potential hazards to a user as a series of questions, which a user can select as being relevant or not to a particular task being carried out. All the data is stored in a database (10) with the different categories of hazards being associated with different work areas. Potential hazards are presented to the user and selected, if relevant. Where potential hazards are identified appropriate exposure avoidance controls are identified. A reporter generates a report setting out identified hazards and their avoidance controls. Permits and equipment data are also stored in the database and included in the report. Risk ratings are also provided for each identified risk. By providing a predefined database of hazards, avoidance controls and associated risk rating for each hazard, user subjectivity and human error are significantly reduced. In addition, the report generated by the computer system provides a mechanism for manually calculating the user-perceived risk of each hazard so that it may be contrasted with the computer-generated risk rating for that hazard. This will be of assistance for user assessment of the task to be performed and its associated risk.